



BRIDGET HEOS is the author of more than 100 fiction and nonfiction books for kids, including the children's choice award-winning **MUSTACHE BABY** series, **STEGOTHESAURUS**, **I, FLY!**, and the **ANIMALS: JUST LIKE US!** series. She lives in Kansas City with her family and travels around the country to talk to schools about research and writing.

BRIDGET will be accepting applications for: FICTION or SCIENCE picture books.

1. If you could be in any movie or tv series, what would it be and what character would you play?

I would be in *Midsomer murders*—somebody with a secret score to settle from the past.

2. If you could have any supernatural power, what would it be and why?

I would have the power to heal.

3. What are your five favorite picture books not written, illustrated, and/or edited by you?

Here are some samples of types of stories I like:

Good old fashion story: *MY LUCKY DAY* (Keiko Kasza)

Stories that pack a big emotional punch: *BIG RED LOLLIPOP* (Rukhsana Khan and Sophie Blackall), *THE GARDENER* (Sarah Stewart and David Small)

Nonfiction stories about science concepts: *LIVING SUNLIGHT* (By Molly Bang and Penny Chisholm)

Sweet funny stories: *CUPCAKE* (Cherise Mericle Harper)

4. What writing and/or publishing-related accomplishment are you most proud of?

I am proud of turning *MUSTACHE BABY* into a series.

5. What about mentoring excites you most?

I am most excited about helping someone make their dream come true.

6. What are your strengths as a mentor?

I can usually spot a problem. Fair warning: I usually do not know how to solve it.

7. What is your feedback/critique style like?

I would point out strengths and weaknesses, ask questions, and suggest similar mentor texts if applicable.

8. What are the most important things you're seeking in a mentee?

Good storytelling. A story's first job is to keep the reader reading.

9. Who are you not the best mentor for?

I prefer a laidback style of communication, so someone with a different approach would not be a good fit.

10. How will you help your mentee and their stories develop?

I can help mentees develop their strongest ideas and improve manuscripts. I can also offer insight into the children's nonfiction book business. I know less about the fiction side, as I am new to it myself and it shifts so quickly.

11. What is your style of communication like?

Communication would be once per week.

12. What are you looking for in the applications you receive?

I would like to read funny or fun manuscripts, manuscripts that inspire wonder, nonfiction books about science concepts, or good ol' fashioned stories in which readers can get lost.

13. Any tips/advice for applicants to make their applications and/or manuscripts shine?

For the manuscript: Revise, revise, revise; For the application: Be honest and direct, while putting your best foot forward.

14. What advice or inspiring and/or motivational words would you like to offer up to anyone applying to be your mentee or simply reading this questionnaire?

Dream freely but craft meticulously.